AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. - 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A system for navigating a magnetic medical device within that part of a patient located within a operating region of the system, the system comprising:

at least three magnets configured and arranged on a planar support to provide a magnetic field effective within the operating region to navigate the magnetic medical device within the operating region.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 3 wherein the magnets are capable of generating a magnetic field within the operating of at least 0.1 in any direction.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the magnets are electromagnetic coils, and wherein the axis of at least one of the coils is not perpendicular to the plane of the planar support.

6. (Previously Presented) A system for navigating a magnetic medical device within that part of a patient located within a operating region of the system, the system comprising:

at least three electromagnet coils configured and arranged on a planar support but with the axis of at least one of the coils not perpendicular to the plane of the planar support, such that the axes of the coils coverage to provide a magnetic field effective within the operating region to navigate the magnetic medical device within the operating region.

7. (Previously Presented) A system for navigating a magnetic medical device within that part of a patient located within a operating region of the system, the system comprising:

at least four magnets configured and arranged in substantially in a plane to provide a magnetic field effective within the operating region to navigate the magnetic medical device within the operating region; and

an imaging system that is not significantly affected by the magnetic field of the at least four magnetic coils.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6 further comprising an imaging system that is not significantly affected by the magnetic field of the electromagnet coils.

9. (Previously Presented) A system for navigating a magnetic medical device within that part of a patient located within a operating region of the system, the system comprising:

at least three magnets configured and arranged in substantially in a plane to provide a magnetic field effective within the operating region to navigate the magnetic medical device within the operating region; and

an imaging system that is not significantly affected by the magnetic field of the magnets.

10. (Previously Presented) A system for applying a magnetic field to a patient's body sufficient to magnetically navigate a magnetically responsive element in the patient's body, the system comprising:

four electromagnets arranged on a planar support.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 10 wherein the planar support is generally vertical.

12. (Previously Presented) A system for applying a magnetic field to a patient's body sufficient to magnetically navigate a magnetically responsive element in the patient's body, the system comprising:

four electromagnets arranged in a generally vertical planar support arranged in two rows of two.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 10 wherein the magnets are arranged in a square pattern, with a magnet generally entered at each corner of the square.

14. (Original) The system according to claim 10 wherein the four magnets are arranged in two rows of two.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the magnets are arranged in a square pattern with a magnet generally centered at each corner of the square.

16. (Previously Presented) A system for applying a magnetic field to a patient's body sufficient to magnetically navigate a magnetically responsive element in the patient's body, the system comprising:

a patient support for supporting a patient;

a magnet assembly comprising a support adjacent the patient support, and four electromagnets mounted on the support and arranged substantially in a plane.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 16 wherein the patient support comprises a bed having a head and a foot, and wherein the magnet assembly is positioned at the head of the bed.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 17 wherein the four electromagnets are arranged substantially in a vertical plane.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for applying a magnetic field to a patient's body sufficient to magnetically navigate a magnetically responsive element in the patient's body, the system comprising:

a patient support for supporting a patient comprising a bed having a head and a foot, and wherein the magnet assembly is positioned at the head of the bed;

a magnet assembly comprising a generally planar support adjacent the patient support, and four electromagnets mounted on the planar support and arranged substantially in a vertical plane on the planar support, the four electromagnets arranged in two rows of two electromagnets.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the electromagnets all have parallel axes.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the axis of at least one the electromagnets is not parallel with the axes of the other electromagnets, the at least one electromagnet being out of orientation of the plane of the planar support.

23. (New) The system of claim 19 wherein the four electromagnets are capable of generating a magnetic field in an operating region that is sufficient to navigate a magnetic medical device in the portion of a patient that is within the operating region, and wherein the patent support is moveable and rotatable about its longitudinal axis to facilitate positioning of the patient relative to the operating region of the electromagnets.